



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/100,100	06/19/98	ROSS JR.	J RLIS

JAMES C WRAY  
1493 CHAIN BRIDGE ROAD  
SUITE 300  
MCLEAN VA 22101

LM01/0411

EXAMINER
----------

KANOF, P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2765	5

DATE MAILED: 04/11/00

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/7/00
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 D.C. 11; 453 O.G. 213.
- A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 1 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).
- Disposition of Claims**
- ☒ Claim(s) 7-36 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- ☒ Claims 7-36 is/are objected to.
- \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

**Attachment(s)**

- ☐ Notice of Reference Cited, PTO-892
- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- Interview Summary, PTO-413
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

-- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES --

Art Unit: 2765

1. This action is responsive to the amendment filed 2/7/2000. Claims 7-36 are pending.
2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 7-14, drawn to a method of tracking patients and showing patient data, classified in class 705, subclass 3.
  - II. Claims 15-22 and 30-36, drawn to a method of generating potential differential diagnosis, classified in class 128, subclass 630.
  - III. Claims 23 and 24, drawn to a method of video instruction, classified in class 434, subclass 262+.
  - IV. Claims 25-29, drawn to a method of medical language generation, classified in class 707, subclass 500+.

3. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because:

Inventions I-IV are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, inventions I-IV have separate utility such as a method of tracking patients and showing patient data, a method of generating potential differential diagnosis, a method of video instruction, and a method of medical language generation. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and, 1) have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, 2) have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, and 3) the search required

Art Unit: 2765

for invention I is not required for inventions II-IV, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. A telephone call was not attempted because the requirement for restriction is complex.

See MPEP § 812.01.

Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

6. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(h).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Exr. Pedro R. Kanof whose telephone number is (703) 308-9552. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 6:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Allen R. MacDonald, can be reached on (703) 305-9708. The fax number for this Group is (703) 308-1396.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

  
ERIC W. STAMBER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER